FHOM
INAME-LOCATION-PHONES C.F. BUCKTEY / WGK

BATE

May 30, 1980

cc. M. Dimmitt - The Pillsbury Co.

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EXCAVATION WORK ON PILLSBURY RAILWAY - SPUR EASEMENT

REFERENCE

TO

D.T. Mayer

The area concerned was once used as a landfill for municipal solid waste. Although chemical waste was not intentionally deposited in that site, it is evident that there is a significant amount of chemical waste mixed in with other trash and debris. Some of the materials are either corrosive or toxic or both. Some are capable of causing systemic poisoning by skin absorption. The hazards to personnel are:

- 1. Material uncovered by bulldozing may be splashed, sprayed or projected around by the crushing effect of the bulldozer, especially if contained in a drum or other container which could be burst when crushed.
- Personnel walking over freshly escavated areas may inadvertently step into exposed material. This is especially dangerous even if no burning sensation is noticed. Some materials can saturate and permeate through leather footwear to create the condition needed for rapid skin absorption.
- Personnel observed some haze or smoke arising from uncovered material. Thus, the possibility exists that material is present which will react with air and ignite.

My recommendations are:

- 1. Keep a sharp look-out when buildozing for drums or pockets of material which could cause material to be splashed or projected around by the force of the buildozer.
- 2. If smoke is observed coming from uncovered material, cover it up again as quickly as possible with dry earth or cinders.
- 3. Personnel working in the area should wear protective clothing and follow good personal hygiene practices as follow:
 - a. Wear coveralls or washable clothing to keep the amount of exposed skin to a minimum, i.e. long sleeves and neck buttoned.
 - b. Protect eyes with goggles (minimum glasses and side shields).
 - c. Wear rubber boots (minimum overshoes).

- 4. Do not handle any suspect material with bare hands.
 Rubber gloves provide the best protection. Do not continue to wear cloth or leather gloves or shoes which become contaminated with suspect material. Anything other than fresh clay or cinders should be considered suspect.
- 5. In the event that anyone is sprayed with material, he should shower and change clothes immediately. A sample of the material should be obtained if possible. (Alternately the location of the material should be noted so that it can be sampled). Expert advice should be sought so that the need for further decontamination or treatment can be determined.
- 6. If strong or irritant odors are encountered, expert advice should also be sought to determine the need for respiratory protection.

C.F. Buckley

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